

Virginia Emergency Operations Center
Hurricane Katrina Impacts
Situation Report #5
Operational Period 0700 Hours September 4, 2005 to 0700 Hours September 5, 2005

SITUATION:

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a limited state of emergency within the Commonwealth on August 31, 2005, directing the Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC) to coordinate state relief efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina.

There are spot fuel shortages around the Commonwealth, primarily by independent stations; however, there is no word of widespread fuel shortages.

Plantation Pipeline Company has increased their average daily throughput to 100% on its refined product pipeline serving the southeastern United States. Colonial Pipeline expected to be at 100% by the end of the holiday weekend. Two spurs into Virginia were opened September 3, 2005.

Localities across the Commonwealth are receiving evacuees from Louisiana. The American Red Cross is providing assistance, such as food, clothing, and shelter, to the evacuees. No public shelters have been established, but this remains a possibility.

ONGOING STATE ACTIVITIES:

- **VDEM/VEOC**
 - Augmented with additional staffing of state agency personnel
 - Coordinating 40 open missions through Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). Disseminating EMAC requests to the appropriate State and/or local agencies
- **DMME**
 - Oil companies are setting allocations limits, not terminals and are expecting spot shortages
 - EPA approved RFG waiver for Richmond area only, Tidewater area is to submit additional information for EPA to reconsider RFG waiver request
 - Monitoring fuel supply for end of holiday problems
- **DOF**
 - 20 additional personnel left for Gulf Shores, Mississippi to operate distribution center for food, water and medical supplies
 - Total of 45 personnel assisting with the response (2 crews of 20 plus 5 personnel assisting with specialty roles on IMTs)
 - In discussion with Mississippi to dispatch a 25 person chainsaw strike team to help with debris clearing and removal
- **VDH**
 - Coordinating efforts to vaccinate Va. Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries (VGIF) law enforcement officers for deployment to Gulf State locations. Officers will be vaccinated and deployed Tuesday, September 6, 2005. Teams will be vaccinated at a designated staging area in Southwest Region. Vaccine availability verified.
 - Identifying volunteers to form public health response teams for deployment to the Gulf Coast. Collected 50+ VDH Agency Volunteer names to date
 - Tracking deployment of Sentara Health System self-sustained Response Team deployment.
 - Virginia DMAT Strike Team initially deployed to Anniston, AL for staging and further movement will occur today

- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner personnel on alert for potential Federal DMORT support
- Instructed local health departments to provide evacuee shelter support/public health assistance if needed
- Coordinating with the Medical Society of Virginia, Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association and Virginia Nurses Association to create a system for providing medical volunteers to the impacted areas. Volunteers should be vaccinated against tetanus/diphtheria. Those who will offer direct patient care or can expect to be in contact with bodily fluids should be immunized against Hepatitis B.
- Contacted local hospitals about additional body bags and decontamination showers
- **VNG**
 - Deployed 120 guardsmen, mainly military police, to assist Louisiana. 24 airguards were deployed with the 120 military police.
 - Deployed 6 guardsmen with the 203rd Red Horse unit, a laundry and bath unit
 - 15 Infantrymen in support of VSP mission in Mississippi on hold, per Mississippi request
 - Approval given for 225 NG personnel to deploy to Mississippi. Personnel are gathering now and waiting deployment.
- **VSP**
 - Deployed VSP helicopter equipped with a hoist, staffed by two pilots
 - 100 Trooper Law Enforcement Task Force with a communication vehicle headed for Mississippi is on hold, per Mississippi request
- **VITA**
 - EMAC Request Summary information is posted on the On-Line EOC. Any On-Line EOC access issues should be directed to VITA Customer Care at 1-866-637-8482
- **VDSS**
 - Directing local offices to refer evacuees to local chapter of American Red Cross (ARC) and provide FEMA teleregistration number. After screening by ARC, DSS will process evacuees into appropriate program
 - DSS will provide guidelines to localities for providing assistance to evacuees
- **VDFF**
 - Staffing to assist in EMAC and Legislative Affairs

LOCAL ACTIONS:

- Identifying resources for possible deployment to impact areas
- Monitoring fuel supply
- Receiving evacuees

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- Virginia Public Inquiry Center (VPIC) opened yesterday to answer questions and field concerns from citizens. The VPIC telephone number is **866-880-4288**, hours of operation this week – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 71 calls reported so far, 13 of which were referred to Medical Reserve Corps.
- FEMA has set up a Donations Hotline at **800-440-6728**
- Electrical power companies serving the Commonwealth report personnel responding to the impacted area as follows: Virginia Dominion Power - 251, Appalachian Power - 292 and Allegheny Power – 131

- American Red Cross has 148 open cases and assisted 471 individuals. The largest concentrations of evacuees are in Tidewater, Richmond and Loudoun County
- Meeting of VERT staff on September 4 to assess evacuee issues and prepare position paper for consideration

PROJECTED FUTURE ACTIONS:

- Conduct conference calls with localities
- Continue to monitor fuel supply and coordinates with localities and the Governor's Office
- Coordinate local and state relief efforts
- Process EMAC requests
- Continue to monitor evacuee situation
- Develop 30-Day plan of action
- Implement external communications plan

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